The Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Friday, June 20, 1980

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Ray Given Rebuff

From The Jackson, Tenn., Bureau

JACKSON, Tenn. — James Earl Ray's attempts to win a new trial for the 1968 slaying of civil rights leader Martin Luther King received another setback Thursday when the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals rebuffed his pleas.

In a brief opinion, Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey said Memphis Criminal Court Judge William H. Williams was justified in dismissing Ray's latest petition.

Ray's appeal is based on a number of grounds, including a claim that his lawyers induced him to plead guilty to King's murder while hoping to make money from a book about his case.